THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The information as to the names of the organizations funded, area of operation of the projects, amounts released during the last three years, State-wise and Year-wise and the purpose of grant is contained in the Annual Reports of the Ministry for the year 2000-01, 2001-02 & 2002-03 which is already available in the Parliament Library. Besides, the Ministry has printed a NGO-Directory which contains names and complete addresses of the organizations including their presidents and the secretaries, location of the projects and amounts released from 1997-98 onwards, State-wise and year-wise.

Lavana Caste as ST

†621. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assembly of Himachal Pradesh has unanimously passed a resolution for declaration of the people belonging to Lavana Caste of Himachal Pradesh and engaged in cow rearing as Scheduled Caste;

(b) whether the Assembly of Himachal Pradesh and its M.Ps. have many times requested orally and in writing to Government that the people of Lavana Caste be declared as Scheduled Caste; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the latest position of the same?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) The Ministry has not received any such information. The Government of India have not received any proposal of inclusion of Lavana Caste in the list of Scheduled Caste of Himachal Pradesh. However, the Ministry has received a proposal for inclusion of Lavana caste in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Himachal Pradesh. The proposal has been processed as per the modalities approved by the Government of India on 15th June, 1999.

Literacy among tribal girls

622. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that literacy rate among tribal girls is very low;

(b) whether Government have started any projects in those low literacy areas;

(c) whether these projects were to be fully assisted by the Central Government; and

(d) whether it is a fact that many Institutions, which were imparting education in such areas did not receive the full amount (grant) as per the rules?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The scheme of Education Complex in Low Literacy pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas was introduced during 1993-94 for setting up and running of Educational Complexes in low literacy districts having less than 10% literacy among S.T. women to improve literacy among ST women.

(c) The ministry extends 100% financial assistance for setting up and running of the project of Education Complex under the Scheme of Educational Complex in Low Literacy pockets for Development of Women Literacy in Tribal Areas.

(d) No, Sir. Grant in aid to the grantee institutions is released as per the prescribed norms of the scheme provided the proposals of these institutions are received with the inspection reports of the concerned District Collector and recommendation of the State Government. Grants to organizations, recommended by State Government or inspecting Ministry officials is being released regularly.

Employment schemes for STs

†623. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored schemes being run by Government for creation of employment opportunities for the persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.